# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1795
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
EXPLORATION IN MAHANADI BASIN OF ORISSA
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has allowed oil companies to undertake exploration for oil and Natural Gas in the Mahanadi Basin of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targets fixed by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER FOR PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) & (b) Oil India Limited is presently carrying out hydrocarbon exploration works in Mahanadi onshore basin in one block awarded under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) Round-II. ONGC is continuing its exploration activities in offshore Mahanadi basin in seven exploratory blocks awarded to it by Government of India on sole risk and / or in consortia. Out of these blocks three are in shallow water and four in deepwater offshore areas of Mahanadi basin.

Government of India has awarded a total of 14 exploration blocks in Mahanadi Basin to various Exploration & Production (E&P) companies in six rounds of NELP held so far.

(c) As per Production Sharing Contract (PSC), the Minimum Work Programme (MWP) in exploration Phase-I is to be carried out by the Operator. The details of blocks and MWP are enclosed in Annexure-I